priority branch. Since nominal root status passes with the grant of the bus, each node should be able to act as arbitrator for the topology. Copending application entitled "Distributed Arbitration on a Full Duplex Bus," Serial No. 09/017,451, describes at least one suitable embodiment of a distributed arbitration system. While much of the subsequent description is devoted to an embodiment in a distributed arbitration topology, the instant invention is also applicable to a non-distributed arbitration topology. For example, even in a system that uses a physical root node to conduct all arbitrations or those systems that continue to employ subaction gaps between each subaction, the invention provides significant bandwidth savings.

Please substitute the following for the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 25:

Figures 2a and 2b show a sample transaction in one embodiment of the invention. Source node 110 is transmitting a PACKETA 116 to destination node 112. Destination node 112 has determined that it cannot accept PACKETA 116. The inability to accept might be caused by e.g., insufficient available resources. This can often be identified from the packet header, e.g., the packet header indicates that the packet is of a size that would exceed the destination buffer resources. While PACKETA 116 is still being transmitted to destination node 112, destination node 112 transmits a NAK 114 upstream to source node 110. Upon sending the NAK 114, the destination node asserts its arbitration request 120 on the upstream line. In **Figure 2b**, source node 110 having received NAK 114 previously, aborts PACKETA 116 and issues a grant 122 to the only requesting node, here destination node 112. By aborting the packet that must be resent later, the remaining packet time may be reclaimed and used for useful work.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please substitute the following amended claims for the pending claims with the same numbers:

1. (Amended) A method comprising:

2   transmitting a primary packet from a source node towards a destination node on a full

3 duplex bus;

4   receiving a NAK while the primary packet is being transmitted; and

5   aborting the transmission without sending all of the primary packet.

1   2. (Amended) The method of Claim 1 further comprising:

2   reclaiming bandwidth not used as a result of aborting.

1   3. (Amended) The method of Claim 2 wherein reclaiming comprises:

2   granting the bus to a highest priority requesting node; and

3   beginning transmission of a next primary packet from the highest priority requesting node.

1   4. (Amended) A method comprising:

2   receiving a primary packet at a destination node;

3   identifying, during the receiving, that the node cannot successfully accept the primary

4 packet; and

5   sending a NAK to the originator of the primary packet concurrently with the receiving.